

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



COLUMBIA HEIGHTS
FIRE DEPARTMENT

2010 Annual Report

The 2010 Annual Report of the Columbia Heights Fire Department is a summary of major statistics and activities that occurred throughout the year.

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2010 HIGHLIGHT SUMMARY

INCIDENT RESPONSE

The Fire Department responded to record 2,510 calls in 2010. The number of calls we respond to remains significantly high for a community of our size. We continue to see an increase in calls at night, calls relating to alcohol and drug use, assaults, and psychological problems. The number of calls for our elderly population remains high but has been slowly shrinking over the past few years.

INSPECTION PROGRAM

The Fire Department Inspection Program is supervised by the Assistant Fire Chief and involves six full time firefighters as inspectors. John Larkin, Assistant Chief, oversees the entire inspection program including abatements as an enforcement tool. **The fire department conducted a total of 5720 inspection and license activities during 2010.** The 2010 Inspection Report summarizes how the inspections were broken into categories including commercial/industrial inspections, rental property inspections, single-family home inspections, and other actions performed by the inspection office.

The amount of rental properties continues to increase as many of the foreclosed properties are being purchased as investment properties. **In 2010, there were 81 new rental licenses.** With the addition of more rental properties and the loss of clerical staff time, the interior of rental properties were on a cycle to be inspected every four years instead of every two years. Interior complaint inspections will continue to be inspected as soon as possible.

Foreclosed and vacant properties continued to be a problem in 2010. The Fire Department continued its periodical inspections of known vacant properties to check for occupancy and security. These added vacant property inspections were beneficial to the appearance and security to our neighborhoods.

TRAINING PROGRAM

The Fire Department members train regularly to ensure they are prepared to safely handle the variety of incidents to which the Fire Department responds and to meet OSHA, NFPA, FEMA, HSEM and state certification standards. The number of standards and training hour requirements continue to rise to meet the growing needs of our area. Fire departments no longer train just for their own communities, but train for the needs of our metropolitan area. **During 2010, our members spent over 2146 hours in training sessions.** Regular training is provided on three Monday evenings each month. One of the Mondays is designated to EMS training to maintain our EMT certifications. Members also have opportunities to attend special outside classes and seminars around the metro area.

CADET DIVISION – EXPLORER PROGRAM

The Cadet Division prepares its own Annual Report. A copy of the report can be obtained from the Fire Department office.

STATION DUTY PROGRAM

The station duty program provides our paid-on-call firefighters the opportunity to work shifts alongside our full time firefighters. This gives the paid-on-call firefighter a much better understanding of how the station functions on a daily basis. This program is a learning tool and not only benefits the firefighter but the fire department and our customers as well. Due to budget cuts a few years ago there is only 24 hours of scheduled shift time on Saturdays. Paid-on-Call firefighters also fill open shifts, when Full Time firefighters are out sick or on vacation, to meet minimum staffing. The program has been a very beneficial educational program and we hope to continue it in the future.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Firefighters continued an education format that was used in grades K-2 in January and February of 2010. This format will allow us to reach more kids with basic fire safety education. In future years we hope to expand this to include more grades.

The department takes an active role in ***Safety Camp*** and ***National Night Out*** each year to reach as many citizens as possible.

A firefighter provides blood pressure checks for the seniors at Murzyn Hall one Friday morning every month.

In addition to these activities, the firefighters conducted station tours for preschool groups, scouting troops, and for the occasional walk-in groups. In 2010, requests for firefighters to speak to outside organizations such as events at the Library, Park & Rec programs, seniors at the various senior housing complexes, a CHHS teacher workshop, ICS Field Day, and summer events for children held at local parks were arranged.

The department held its annual Open House in October. With beautiful weather and a crowd of approximately 400 people in attendance the open house was a success. The Open House was possible due to the generous donations of area businesses and residents.

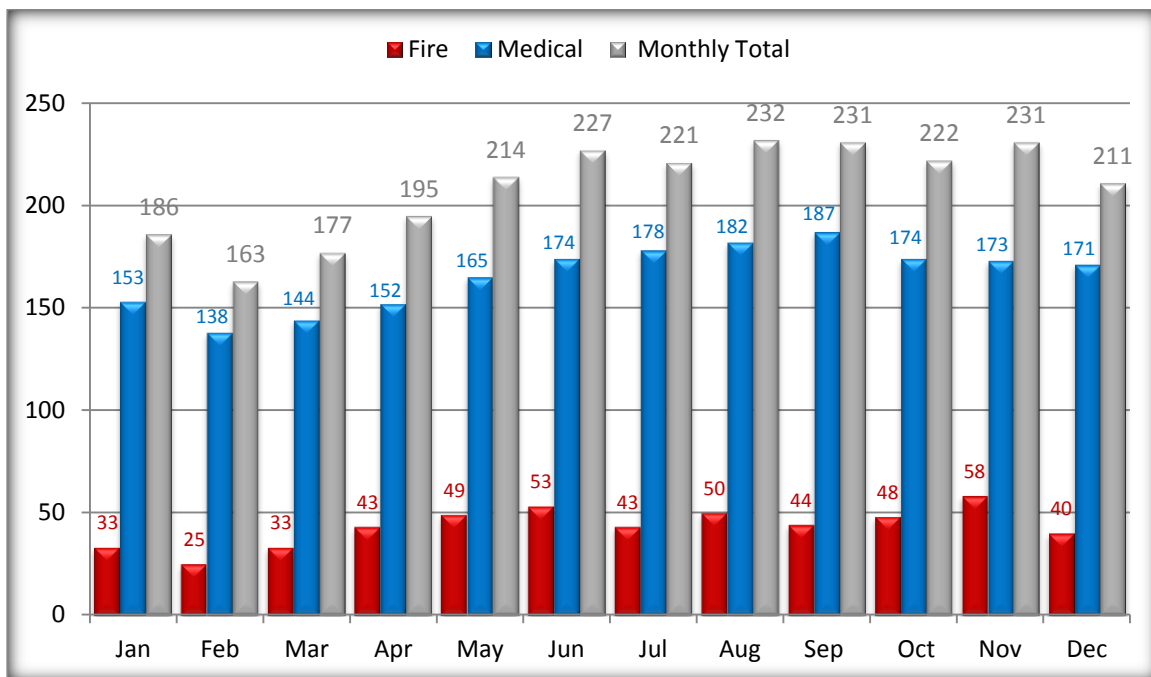
ANOKA COUNTY PEER SUPPORT

Anoka County has a peer-support group available to all public safety workers. Public Safety workers are involved in many tragic events. These events can affect us in many different ways. There is a need for these individuals to talk to someone who has been through these types of events and to help them with feelings. The group is made up of firefighters, police officers, members of the sheriff's department, and dispatchers. These dedicated professionals attend many meetings and training sessions during the year to prepare for peer support events. **The Columbia Heights Fire Department has one member who is part of this team. In 2010, he was involved in 13 peer support activities.**

2010 TABLES/CHARTS OF ACTIVITIES

INCIDENT REPORTS

2010 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL CALLS BY MONTH



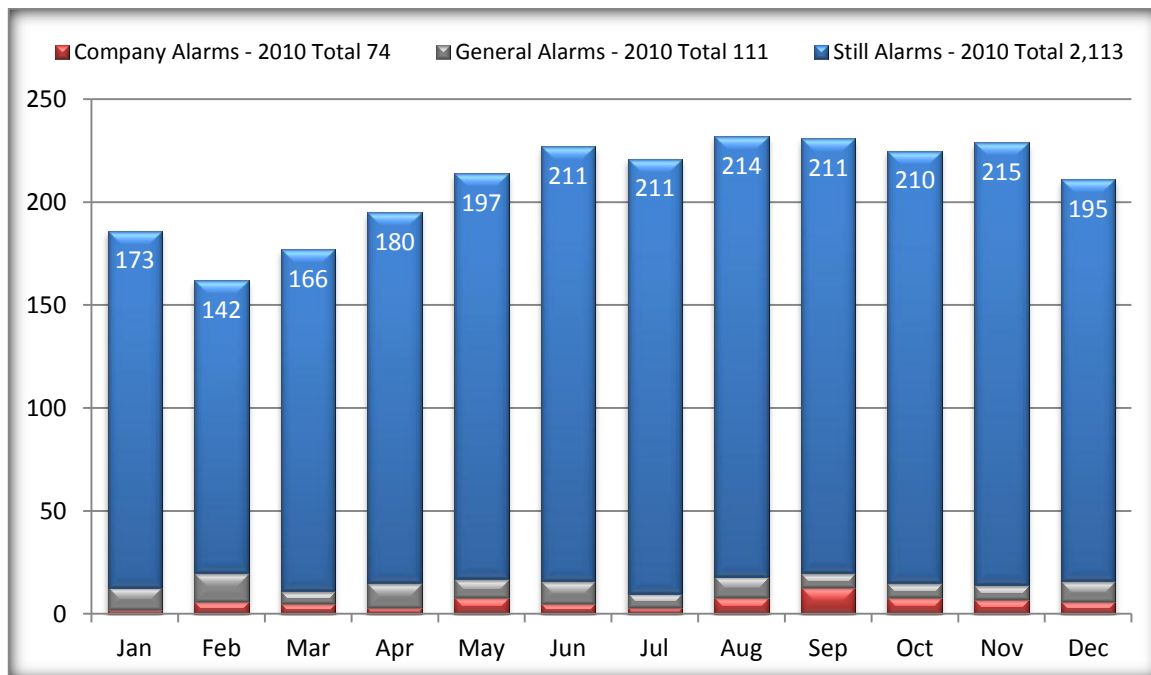
2010 Total Fire Calls 519	2010 Total Medical Calls 1991	Total calls for 2010 2510
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2010 TYPE OF ALARMS BY MONTH

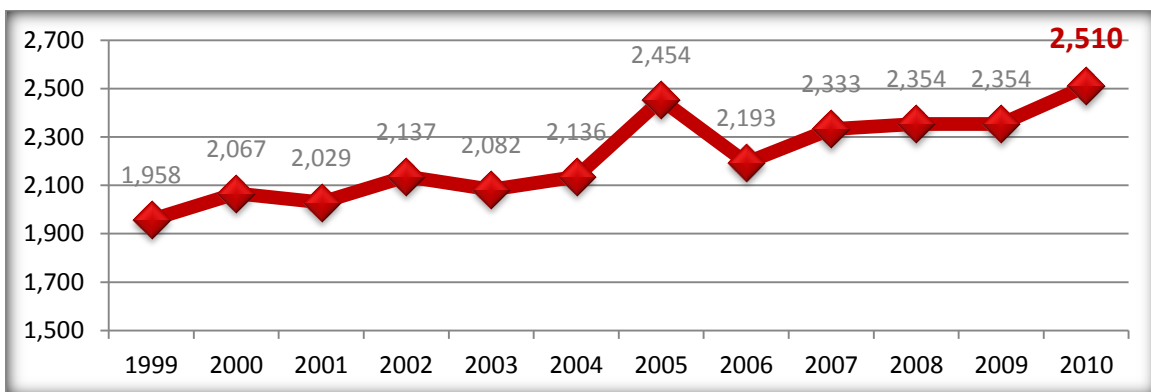
Still Alarms are handled by on-duty personnel without calling for additional help.

Company Alarms are handled by call-back of available off-duty paid personnel and approximately 1/2 of available Paid-on-Call membership.

General Alarms are used when the situation calls for the services of all available members.



TOTAL CALLS BY THE YEAR



2010 CLASSIFICATION OF ALARMS

Medical Emergencies		Fire Alarms	
Auto Accident	45	Trees/Brush/Grass Fire	7
Auto/Pedestrian Accident	16	Refuse	8
Assault	59	Air/Gas/Steam Rupture	13
DOA	28	Spill/Leak, No Ignition	14
Fall/Fracture	206	Power Line Down	59
Gunshot/Stabbing	11	Arcing/Shorted Equipment	15
Heart (Breathing Difficulties)	270	Carbon Monoxide/Haz Cond	47
OB	16	Smoke/Odor Removal	28
Overdose	22	Smoke Scare	20
Illness, General	800	Fire Not Involving Structure (Burnt food/iron)	25
Extrication	7	Unauthorized Burn	39
False, Medical	25	Good Intent, Fire	36
Good Intent, Medical	208	Search	2
Cancelled Enroute	90	Water Evacuation	2
Lift Assist (no medical)	107	Cover Assignment	7
Full Arrest	13	Service, Fire	19
ETOH (DK)	25	Excessive Heat	3
Bleeding/Hemorrhaging/Lacerations	43	Vicinity Alarm	2
		Vehicle Fire, no loss	2
		Not Classified Fire	8
		False/Malicious	6
		False/Unintentional	32
		System Malfunction	53
		Assist Police	36
		Fire Incidents with Loss	
		One/Two Family	9
		Garage	2
		Retail/Mercantile/Office	1
		Public Assy/Education	2
		Vehicle	13
		Exposure	4
		Other	5
TOTAL MEDICAL CALLS	1991	TOTAL FIRE CALLS	519

APPARATUS/EQUIPMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT FLEET

FIRE CHIEF

2001 Ford Expedition
Cost \$44,270



ASST. FIRE CHIEF

2000 Ford Crown Victoria
Cost \$20,358

BOAT 1

1999 Zodiac Rescue Boat
Cost \$2,650





AERIAL 15

2004 General Safety Quint
109 foot RK ladder
Cost \$591,988



ENGINE 1

1995 General Safety
Type I Engine
Cost \$239,810



ENGINE 4

1985 General Safety
Type I Engine
Cost \$122,049
Refurbished 2004
Cost \$54,303

RESCUE 1

1990 Road Rescue
Heavy Rescue / Mobile Air
Cost \$97,613
Refurbished 2004



RESCUE 2

2002 Braun Ambulance
Type III Ambulance
Cost \$70,591

RESCUE 3

2007 Ford F-350
Light Rescue/Utility
Cost \$47,048



CASUALTY REPORT

2010 FIRE SERVICE CASUALTIES

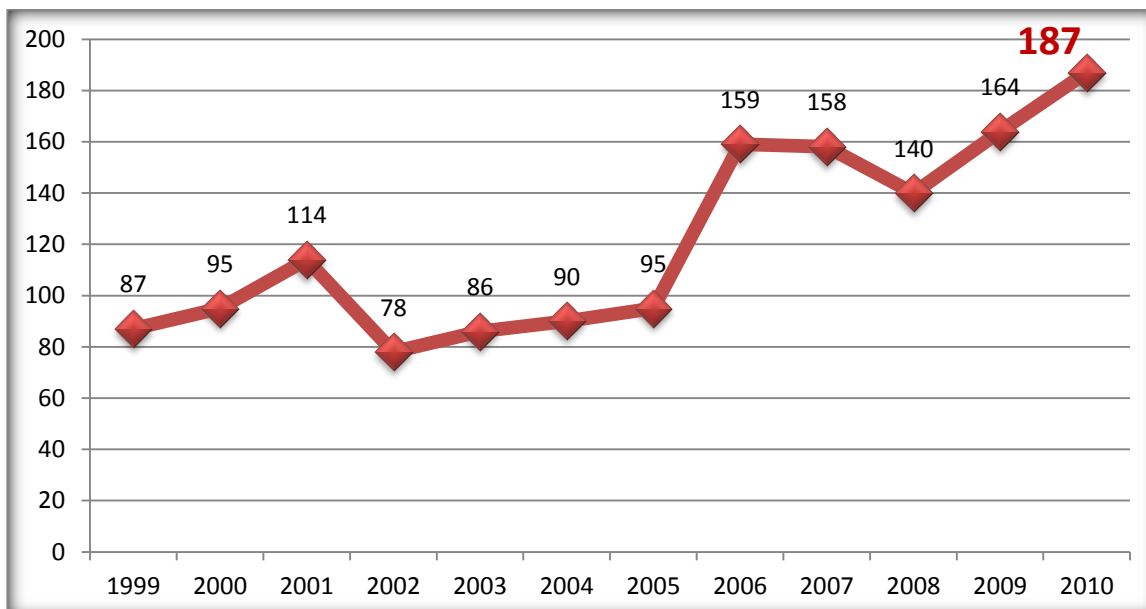
Date	Call #	Name	Injury	Cause
3-4-10	10-0363	Fulltime Firefighter	Back Strain	Carrying on icy surface
6-2-10	10-0942	Paid-on-Call Firefighter	Cut Finger	Breaking window for entry

2010 CIVILIAN CASUALTIES

Date	Call #	Name	Injury	Cause
7-12-10	10-1238	Adult Female	Burn on Hand	Wax from candle on stove
10-28-10	10-2044	Adult Male	Smoke Inhalation	Burnt food on stove

HILLTOP CALL LOAD REPORT

The City of Columbia Heights provides firefighting and emergency medical services to the City of Hilltop. A three-year Joint Agreement and Contract was signed in 2009, which covers the years 2010 – 2012. The number of calls to Hilltop since 1999 is reflected in the chart below.



MUTUAL AID REPORT

2010 MUTUAL AID GIVEN – (9 TIMES)

(A=Dispatched as Auto Aid, M=Mutual Aid requested, O=Other Aid)

Date	Call #	Address	Type of Assistance	Type	Department
3-7	10-382	1230 Cheri Ln	Apartment Fire	M	Fridley
3-15	10-428	742 - 57th Ave	House Fire	M	Fridley
4-10	10-588		Station Coverage	M	Fridley
9-10	10-1681	1337 Skywood Ln	Stabbing	M	Fridley
10-7	10-1888	6540 East River Road	Cooking Fire	A	Fridley
10-7	10-1894	5131 3rd St	Station Coverage	M	Fridley
11-2	10-2076	46th Ave/3rd St	Power Line Down	M	Fridley
11-28	10-2284	6261 Trinity Dr	Chimney Fire	A	Fridley
12-19	10-2427	6431 University Ave	Station Coverage	M	Fridley

2010 MUTUAL AID RECEIVED – (23 TIMES)

(A=Dispatched as Auto Aid, M=Mutual Aid requested)

Date	Call #	Address	Type of Assistance	Type	Department
3-17	10-438	3930 University Ave	Building Fire	M	Fridley
3-17	10-438	3930 University Ave	Building Fire	M	St. Anthony
3-17	10-439	4404 7th St	Medical Assist	M	Fridley
3-18	10-443	Central Ave/50th Ave	Vehicle Accident	M	Fridley
4-30	10-719	5028 Washington St	Oil Spill	M	Fridley
6-2	10-942	4550 Central #1100	Building Fire	M	Fridley
6-2	10-942	4550 Central #1100	Building Fire	M	St. Anthony
6-2	10-943	4030 Jackson St	Shorted Electrical	M	St. Anthony
6-10	10-992	4164 Maureen Dr	Vehicle Fire	A	Fridley
6-10	10-992	4164 Maureen Dr	Vehicle Fire	A	St. Anthony
8-18	10-1514	4347 University Ave	Building Fire	M	Fridley
8-18	10-1514	4347 University Ave	Building Fire	M	St. Anthony
9-23	10-1786	5111 - 7th St	Dryer Vent/NIF	M	Fridley
9-23	10-1786	5111 - 7th St	Dryer Vent/NIF	M	St. Anthony
10-18	10-1975	4650 Johnson St	Fall	M	Fridley
10-22	10-1995	800 – 53rd Ave	High Blood Sugar	O	Fridley
10-28	10-2044	4120 – 4th St	Cooking Fire	A	St. Anthony
10-28	10-2044	4120 – 4th St	Cooking Fire	A	Fridley
11-14	10-2187	4538 7th St	Stabbing	O	Fridley
11-18	10-2214	4141 Stinson Blvd	Chimney Fire/NIF	A	St. Anthony
11-18	10-2214	4141 Stinson Blvd	Chimney Fire/NIF	A	Fridley
11-30	10-2299	4901 – 4th St	Building Fire	A	St. Anthony
12-11	10-2377	4512 Washington St	Gas Odor/NIF	M	Fridley

*NIF – No Incident Found

INSPECTION REPORT

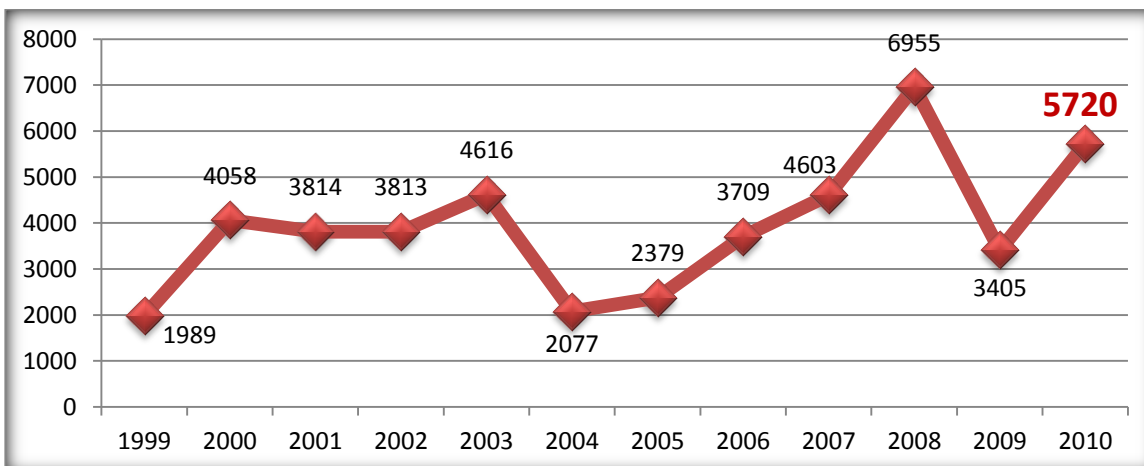
2010 INSPECTIONS

The fire department inspection program is supervised by the Assistant Fire Chief and involves all six full time firefighters as inspectors. All inspectors are trained for all types of inspections, allowing for flexibility in scheduling. In 2006, the addition of abatements was used as an enforcement tool. In 2007, the enforcement of long grass ordinance was added.

The fire department conducted a total of 5720 inspection and license activities during 2010. The following chart shows a breakdown of some of the activities:

INSPECTIONS:	
Commercial/Industrial Inspections	533
Rental Property Inspections	1481
Single Family Home Exterior Inspections	219
Hilltop MSFC Inspections	57
Outside Storage Inspections	923
Long Grass Inspections	2309
Snow Inspections	198
OTHER:	
Rental License Revocations	18
Abatement Actions	81
Snow Shoveling	18
Grass Cutting	210
Fire Prevention Contacts	65

TOTAL INSPECTIONS BY THE YEAR



FIRE LOSS REPORT

2010 STRUCTURE FIRE INCIDENTS WITH PROPERTY LOSS

Date	Call #	Address	Occupancy Type	Cause of Fire	Prop Loss
1-10	10-72	4315 Central Ave	Commercial	Dryer Fire	15,200
2-6	10-209	4910 Central Ave	Restaurant	Veh Fire/Undetermined	50,000
3-17	10-438	3930 University Ave	Warehouse	Undetermined	150,000
4-11	10-597	4226 – 4th St	Apartment	Undetermined	2,000
6-2	10-942	4550 Central Ave	Mobile Home	Undetermined	30,000
6-10	10-992	4164 Maureen Dr	Condo	Undetermined	25,000
6-10	10-992	4160 Maureen Dr	Condo	Exposure	5,000
6-24	10-1102	4950 Fillmore St	Single Family	Undetermined	35,000
6-27	10-1136	4052 Monroe St	Single Family	Room Fan	15,000
7-12	10-1238	4312 3rd St	Condo	Unintentional-candle wax	2,000
7-17	10-1272	4207 2nd St	Rental	Unintentional - laundry	1,000
8-18	10-1514	4347 University	Rental	Unintentional - kitchen	16,000
8-24	10-1560	4243 Washington	Single Family	Intentional	1,000
8-24	10-1563	1248 Circle Terrace	Rental	Undetermined	10,000
8-25	10-1571	1313 Circle Terrace	Rental	Unintentional - cooking	11,000
9-22	10-1780	4757 – 7th St	Porta Potty	Undetermined	1,000
10-28	10-2049	965 – 40th Ave	Apartment	Unintentional – iron fire	3,000
11-13	10-2151	5200 – 7th St	Single Family	Undetermined	54,000
11-13	10-2151	5200 – 7th St	Single Family	Exposure	10,000
11-13	10-2151	5206 – 7th St	Single Family	Exposure	2,500
11-30	10-2299	4901 – 4th St	Single Family	Unintentional - cooking	5,000
Total 2010 Structure Fire Property Loss					\$443,700
(19 incidents and (2 incidents with multiple losses) - estimated figures					

2010 VEHICLE FIRE PROPERTY LOSS SUMMARY

Total 2010 Vehicle Fire Property Loss	\$44,800
(14 incidents) - estimated figures	